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Into Russia Charged ^{Post} 1/11/56

Protest Declares Military Planes Violated Borders 3 Times in Week

(Map on Page 6)

Associated Press

Russia charged yesterday that American military planes flew deep into Western Russia three times within the past week in a "gross violation of Soviet air space."

Soviet Ambassador Georgi Zaroubin, acting on instructions from Moscow, lodged the protest in a formal note handed to Secretary of State John Foster Dulles.

Zaroubin denounced the alleged overflights as "an invasion of our air" and said some of the flights penetrated up to 320 kilometers, or about 200 miles, inside Russia.

"Some of these planes remained there two hours and one half," he told reporters.

~~The State Department~~
~~personnel reported it knows~~
~~"absolutely nothing about this."~~

but promised to check with "appropriate authorities" in the Defense Department. There was no immediate comment from the latter Department.

Dulles made no reply, said a spokesman, when Zaroubin told him through an interpreter what was in the Russian text of the note which he delivered.

Zaroubin, unsmiling and grim, told reporters after calling on Dulles that the American planes flew over Minsk, Pinsk, Kaliningrad, Vilna, Lauenas and Baranovichi.

Kaliningrad, Kaunas and Vilna are in the former Baltic republic of Lithuania, seized by Russia in 1940. Minsk, Baranovichi, and Pinsk are in White Russia, a Soviet republic which borders Lithuania.

A Moscow radio broadcast heard in London yesterday said the planes came from Western Germany by way of Communist East Germany and Poland.

The broadcast said the protest to Washington declared: "Noteworthy in this connection is the fact that the above violations of Soviet air space by American aircraft have coincided with the stay in the Federal Republic of Germany of the Commander of the United States Air Force, Gen. Nathan Twining."

Twining stopped over in Germany en route home from a recent visit to Moscow.

Washington July 11, 1956

"Post"